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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE MAR 24 1999

APPLICANT:	ROBERT S. HERRICK,	)	TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3700
SERIAL NO.:	08/951,690	)	GROUP ART UNIT
		)	3738
FILED:	October 16, 1997	)	EXAMINER
		)	TRAM NGUYEN
FOR: PUNCTUM PLUG HAVING A COLLAPSIBLE		)	
FLARED SECTION AND METHOD		)	

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
 Washington, D. C. 20231

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME  
OF THREE (3) MONTHS FOR RESPONSE TO  
OFFICE ACTION AND PAYMENT OF FEE THEREOF

Dear Sir:

An Office Action dated October 6, 1999, was received in the above identified Application which set a time for response of three (3) months from the date thereof, requiring that a response be filed on or before January 6, 1999. Under 35 U.S.C. Section 133, the maximum period set for response is six (6) months.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as EXPRESS MAIL NO. EJ652991599US in an envelope addressed to:  
 Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks,  
 Washington, D.C. 20231, on March 15, 1999.

Date of Signing: March 15, 1999Signature: Paul J. MeaneyDate of Mailing: March 15, 1999

03/22/1999 AIBRAHIM 00000102 08951690

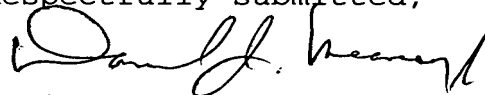
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435.00 OP

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. Section 1.136(a), the undersigned elects to extend the shortened statutory time from response by three (3) month, which extends the response date from January 6, 1999 to April 6, 1999. The Small Entity Fee set in 37 C.F.R. Section 1.17(a)(3) for responding three (3) months beyond the shortened statutory time for response is \$435.00. A check for \$435.00 is enclosed. If any additional fees are due, please charge the same to Deposit Account No. 13-2515.

Based on the above, the shortened statutory time for reply is extended three (3) months to April 6, 1999, by filing this Petition for an extension of time prior to or with the response due herein and payment of the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. Section 1.17(a)(3).

Respectfully submitted,



Daniel J. Meaney, Jr.  
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Attorney for Applicant

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Dated: March 15, 1999

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